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LONDON
11.01 p.m.—11.11 a.m.
PLYMOUTH
11.10 p.m.—11.11 a.m.
BIRMINGHAM
11.12 p.m.—11.12 a.m.
(Supplied by Automobile Associations)

No. 3219—62nd Year
SUNDAY, JULY 11, 1943

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Sicily's Coastal Defences Crumble After Few Hours' Fighting: Allied Troops Advancing Inland

"SUCCESS OF OUR LANDING IN SICILY IS ALREADY ASSURED"

—OFFICIAL
"THE SUCCESS OF OUR LANDING IN SICILY IS ALREADY ASSURED," DECLARED A DRAMATIC COMMUNIQUE FROM ALLIED H.Q. BROADCAST BY ALGIERS RADIO LAST NIGHT

The communique, which came after more than 15 hours of official silence following the first announcement of the landings, stated:

"In spite of unfavourable weather and a swell off the Sicilian Channel, the Allied landing in Sicily started before dawn and is proceeding according to plan.

'Can Go Several Ways From Sicily'

BEGINNING OF THE END: ROOSEVELT

Washington, Saturday.
It was disclosed today that President Roosevelt, at last night's dinner for General Girard, announced the attack on Sicily and said: "I think we can almost say this action is the beginning of the end."

We are going to be ashore in a great sense, air, sea and military sense.

One other, we shall have an opportunity of going in different directions, and I want to tell General Girard we have not forgotten that France is one of the directions.

'We'll Sweep Through Sicily'

Washington, Saturday.
SENATOR CONNALLY, after talking with President Roosevelt tonight, said: "The Allies will sweep through Sicily. I do not believe that they will be stopped. The current has set for Italy."

Senator Connally is Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee—B.U.P.

Brave Words On Rome Radio

Rome Radio said last night: "Italian and German troops are engaged in violent fighting with our forces, who will soon realize that Sicily is not such an easy prize as they have imagined."

Italian and German troops are fighting more than their brother-in-arms and are fighting very bitterly.—B.U.P.

France's Turn Soon Now

LIBERATION of France will begin. The French army in North Africa is ready for action.

The troops will leave North Africa and Italy. They will set out to liberate Strasbourg.

The message was broadcast by Algiers Radio last night.

The French forces in North Africa are now equipped with first-class weapons and trained for offensive warfare. It was added.

'Marching Along Coast'

According to reports last night from Madrid—reports which must be treated with reserve—large numbers of Allied troops were moving ashore and were pushing inland into Sicily after establishing bridgeheads and marching toward the coastal roads.

Italy's Peril

Italy's secret rebel radio, which broadcast under the name of "Radio Italia," warned the Italian people last night.

This is a very grave moment for all Italians. This moment is more serious than it seems on the surface."



Thousands Of Bombs

SICILIAN COAST AN INFERNO

From DONALD COE, B.U.P. Correspondent

THE Sicilian coastline is an inferno, according to reports coming back from the front across the Mediterranean narrows. Thousands of bombs are being dropped on the Axis positions in the invasion areas until the earth starts quivers with the weight of the explosions.

Out at sea Allied warships, backing the invaders, hurled salvo after salvo into the enemy positions until the whole landing front flamed and flared.

Over all the countryside within reach of our planes a pall of grey smoke is beginning to settle here and there through the hills and along the valleys. The air is scented with fumes.

In hundreds of tiny invasion craft the "short troops" of the allies, some, eager men, their faces daubed blue, black and green moved into Sicily.

They went ashore before the first light broke the sky under a curtain of fire from the guns of the Axis.

They had trained for this for long, long time. Many times they had carried out the same maneuvers in practice. Standing on the African shores, one could hear the low rumble of the motors of their landing craft growing clearer and clearer.

NEW TORPEDO WEAPON
At first as they were sighted, there was no sign of the men in the landing craft but, as they came into the shore, the men, crouching down behind the steel sides, suddenly clambered up, jumped over the sides of the craft into the sea, carrying with them automatic rifles, machine-guns and mortars and ammunition, while others went ahead with Bangalore torpedoes to dig holes through the wire for the men.

This is the type of operation which has been carried out by hundreds of times on the Sicilian shores during the attack this morning.

Landing craft nosed ashore under cover of enemy shells and under cover, where possible, by rolling clouds of smoke poured out by our small escorting warships.

Berlin Prepares For The Worst

With a few hours of the Allied landings in Sicily, Berlin began to prepare for the worst.

The loss of the island would be a vital German spokesman told the Swedish Press quoted by British United Press. Southern Italy was the objective, not Sicily, they declared.

The German fashion they claimed that Allied progress had been checked and that all the paratroopers had been wiped out.

'According To Plan'

ALGIERS Radio repeated several times yesterday that "Everything is going according to plan."

And here is what that means—

It means that not only are the initial objectives being attained, but that the subsequent operation behind the men who are

FIERCE GERMAN ATTACKS HAVE BEEN HURLED BACK, SAYS MOSCOW

Trust For Kursk

FIERCE German attacks in some sectors of the Orel-Kursk area were repelled by the Russian troops in heavy fighting yesterday, Moscow Radio said last night. The Nazis were forced back after suffering heavy casualties.

A German attack in one sector drove a wedge into the Russian lines, but later yesterday these forces were driven back with heavy losses.

Eight successive German attacks on another sector were repulsed and a combined attack by troops and tanks, supported by more than 100 planes in a third sector, was broken up.

German aircraft are trying to thrust towards Kursk and at the same time are making a wide effort towards the south-east to cut Soviet communications at the four rivers Kursk and Voronezh, stated Harold King, Reuters' special correspondent in Moscow, last night.

Big tank battles have been raging in the last 20 hours in the areas where the Germans have driven in wedges.

Hundreds of planes and tanks are locked in a fierce battle for a vital point south of the front line, the Soviet-German offensive nears the end of its first week. The town has not been named, but is probably in the Byelgorod sector, where the Germans are increasing their pressure after driving a wedge into the Soviet lines.

While the main danger point at the moment is around Byelgorod, another big battle has been developed in the Orel sector, north of Kursk.

Having come up against the Soviet stoutest defence, in the first four days, the Germans suddenly switched their main attack to a new sector, hoping to find a weaker spot, less well defended by Soviet arms.

THIRD TIME UNLUCKY
Soviet mechanized artillery were immediately sent to the spot and deployed in time to catch German tanks in a heavy cross-fire.

In the first ten minutes 20 German tanks were set on fire and the rest turned back.

After turning up again a little further up the line the Germans tried again. This time the German tanks were 20 turned up a third time and attacked again.

After the third time the Soviet command threw in its own tanks, which waited until the panzers were within 100 yards and then struck from the flank.

German tanks lost altogether 40 tanks, including 18 of the much-valued Tigers.

THE Orel sector of the Kursk front is not giving any anxiety as German tanks have not been able to break through.

He describes it as rather like looking through clouds. "It is delighted, and so of course, are his wife and friends. The improvement has been gradual in the last few days and we are all hopeful that it will continue."

"Mrs. Knight has always been a very good mother and a very good wife, even when others said there was no hope."

German Invasion Jitters At Skaggerack

FOUR skiffs leading to the water's edge in Fredrikstad and the southwest coast of Norway (being the Skaggerack) have been surrounded by German warships and concrete blocks, according to a report reaching the Norwegian Telegraph Agency yesterday.

The Germans, said the report, are carrying out realistic anti-invasion maneuvers round the area, which they have built up near the Swedish frontier.

A German battleship commander on one of the islands outside Fredrikstad told Press reports yesterday that he was watching the shelling across the water that the aim of the practice maneuvers was to repulse any invasion attempt against a strongly defended island base.

BERLIN STATE OFF

The German official News Agency Reuters situated near Berlin, went off the air shortly after six o'clock last night "for technical reasons"—B.U.P.

ITALIAN SUBMARINE SINKS TUG SHIP

Ankara, Saturday.
A submarine, believed to be Italian, has torpedoed and sunk a British tugboat, the vessel was going from Smyrna to Antalya, on the southern coast of Turkey—B.U.P.

Under Triple Bombardment

LAND, SEA, AIR BLOWS ON JAPS

MUNDA, Japan's beleaguered base on the tip of New Georgia Island, has been caught in the crossfire of a triple bombardment from land, sea and air.

U.S. warships shelled it just before dawn on Friday, and soon after day broke 100 intensifying, five-bombers dropped 70 tons of high explosive on A.A. positions, encampments and supply dumps on the airfield and its outlying anchorages and supply bases.

"At the same time," said yesterday's communique from General MacArthur's H.Q., "our artillery also engaged the Japanese positions."

This presumably refers to the strikes on Rendova Island, six miles away.

KISKA TOO!
This triple bombardment was the heaviest since any area since the start of the Solomon offensive, James H. Ducey, a special correspondent, cabled yesterday.

News is still awaited of the progress of land operations on New Georgia since Friday's reports that bitter fighting was going on in the outskirts of Munda, airfield.

In the North Pacific an American night surface unit bombarded the Japanese base of Kiska, in the Aleutians, for several hours on Friday.

Japanese shore batteries returned the fire but caused no damage, says War Department communique issued in Washington last night.

AXIS HATCHES NEW U-BOAT PLOT

FOLLOWING the trouncing of Germany's U-boats last month, Germany and Italy are now talking of "close collaboration" in future submarine warfare.

Berlin Radio yesterday revealed that talks between Admiral Dönitz, C-in-C of the German Navy, and Vice-Admiral Legnani, commander of the Italian Submarine Fleet, are now in progress.

'EVERY HOUSE A FORTRESS'

"Every house will be a fortress, every house a pass," said Guglielmo, Italian commentator in "La Tribuna," the Rome news paper, yesterday.

ATTACK ON JAPAN SOON

Attack on the mainland of Japan by United States air forces is foreshadowed by the German Radio quoted by Reuters.

Berlin declared that United States air bases at Lingling and Lianjiang had been reinforced.

The abandonment of guerrilla warfare by the U.S. Air Force was another indication of their plans, the announcer said.

You've had something more than a drink when you've had a Guinness . . .

GUINNESS
IS GOOD FOR YOU

